Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit . . .

METHODIST Peace Courier

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GENEVA--DARKNESS, LIGHT, OR TWILIGHT

A very restrained statement has been released by Secretary of State Dulles as he leaves he Geneva Foreign Ministers Conference. We approve his rejection of a view of hopelessness or efeatism. He is quoted by the press as having aid: "I have learned not to be readily disouraged," noting that he had been through more onferences than is the lot of most people. He s quoted as having said: "This Conference has ad its merits. We have talked plainly. We ave in the main discussed seriously and without ituperation. Our talks have not been wholly arren. Our hope for the future derives from ur belief that the Soviet Government will, oner or later, come to see that the advantage o it in better relations with the West, is far reater than the local and passing advantages hich it could gain at the price of forfeiting he good relationship which, at the summit conerence, the Soviet rulers seemed to want." owever, Mr. Dulles said Moscow's attitude "will lmost certainly impair the development of the onfidence which the summit meeting sought to oster."

True, he cannot and does not display great ptimism nor report hoped for advances in the ettlement of the German problem, the European ecurity problem, or of an accepted plan for disolving the Iron Curtain. There is significance n his report of a clearer understanding of the iews of East and West and of the nature of the roblems which have to be solved if the Iron urtain is to be dissolved and peaceful relaions established by the East and the West. he discovery of the problem of timeliness of ertain forward steps is significant and might e studied closely. In a sense, both Secretary f State Dulles and Foreign Minister Molotov are ight in their published statements concerning pecific steps proposed for easing tensions. r. Molotov, as Mr. Dulles conceded, may be ight that the items proposed are matters of omestic consideration and action. But Mr. Dules certainly also is right in that nations must now what each other's intentions are if common ctions are to be taken on common problems in he reduction of tensions; such as -- matters of passports, visas, the mutual publication of and reception of each other's journals and other printed materials, agreements upon travel across boundary lines by planes, and, in general, the establishment of what might be termed normal relations between countries or groups of countries. Since the Foreign Minister of the Soviet Union stressed the point that these matters must be acted upon as the domestic concern of each nation respectively, it is not impossible that we may witness the adoption of a number of new policies on the part of the Soviet Union with respect to such points as were released by Mr. Dulles.

Certainly it seemed clear in Russia last summer that the Russian people, churches, and Intourist (the official travel and tour agency of the U.S.S.R.) were all favorable and, indeed, enthusiastic about the possibility of a marked increase in travel, tours, exchange groups, etc. Pending this, we may express the hope that the Department of State will not renounce the positions it has taken nor withdraw its action liberalizing American passports, etc.

In the morning newspapers of November 17, Secretary of Defense Wilson, like Secretary Dulles, has expressed a restrained point of view concerning the outcome of the Geneva Conference.

What Can We Do?

One. We can refuse to fall under the spell of defeat and cynicism. Like Secretaries Dulles and Wilson, we can exercise restraint in thought and action. We can courageously tackle the problem of peace -- making that lie ahead, for we have a God of peace to empower us.

Two. We can reject and seek to defeat impulsive demands that we rush into a billion -- or billions -- of dollars for additional armaments. We can put new strength, support, and ingenuity into fresh efforts to find points of agreement in the Disarmament Commission and Sub-Committee of the United Nations. This will save dollars, headaches, and heartaches.

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Three. We can refuse to add fuel to anybody's brush-pile of prejudice and hate. We can roll up the power of moral insight and moral principles applied to economic and political decisions.

Four. We can try to understand and to search for constructive proposals to ease the tensions of the Middle and Near East, willing to pay our share for constructive measures of meeting dire need in preference to contributing to an armed conflict which in the end could well engulf all of us.

Five. We can support the State Department in maintaining the liberal advances already made with respect to passports and visas and other sound approaches to removing restrictions on travel and trade, and do what we can to encourage other nations, including Russia, to do likewise.

Six. We can vigorously support principles of freedom and civil rights in our own country, and support Congress in increasing relief and economic aid in underdeveloped areas of the world, where history has dealt out to man less favorable conditions than we enjoy.

Seven. We can pray and work, and have faith in the moral and ethical rightness of the teachings of Jesus applied to economic, racial, and international situations of our day. There exist the moral and spiritual forces adequate in this decade to substitute peace for war.

Charles F. Boss, Jr.

OCTOBER COURIER WELL RECEIVED

"Just finished reading the October copy of Peace Courier. Read it from beginning to end. In fact, the reminder set me going again."

Roland L. Leurich
District Superintendent
Newark Conference.

Best of all! Many new subscriptions are being received. Keep them coming! (EDITOR)

SHOULD WE EXPECT LOCAL CHURCHES TO HAVE EFFECTIVE COMMITTEES ON WORLD PEACE?

Mt. Zion Methodist Church (C.J.), New Orleans, Louisiana, answers "yes," and describes some of the program carried out by its fourteen-member local church world peace committee. The October 23 World Order Sunday program illustrates what can be done. In the morning service, a layman, Mr. Henry Bynum, spoke on the subject, "Lay World Peace Talk." The minister, Rev. Robert D. Hill, preached on "The Kingdom of God." The evening program observed the "United Nations Tenth Anniversary" under the sponsorship of the local committee, of which Mrs. Amanda Bynum is chairman.

Study groups were conducted on "The Meaning of Peace." Those composing the study group included the Woman's Society of Christian Service, Commission on Education, Conference Sons and Daughters, and the Sunshine Club. The United Nations discussion was led by Mr. Joshua Butler, Sr., and the following organizations composed the discussion group: Committee on World Peace, Young Adult Fellowship, Stewardship Board, Willing Workers, Gleaners, Commission on Membership and Evangelism. The disarmament group was composed of the Methodist Men's club, Wesleyan Service Guild, Morning Star, the Usher Boards Nos. 1 and 2, and Methodist Youth Fellowship, and was led by L. P. Evans of the Commission on Missions.

In the night service observing World Order Sunday and U.N. Day, Rev. George W. Carter, District Superintendent and Secretary of the Board of World Peace of The Methodist Church, preached a fine peace sermon following the singing of the hymn, "In Christ There Is No East or West."

These specific things were done. Why doesn't every local church have a strong committee on world peace? It can have.

MESSAGES OF GOODWILL FROM RUSSIA

Moscow, U.S.S.R.

"To Mr. Charles F. Boss in commemoration of our meeting in the Soviet Peace Committee.

"We wish you good health and prosperity in your lofty task in defense of peace and to strengthen friendship between our nations."

Michael Kotov
Member All Soviet Union Peace Council

Leningrad, U.S.S.R.

"To Dr. Charles F. Boss, Jr.:

"Seeing you off to different countries, we ask you: bring to people behind the oceans, to all cities where you will stay, God's present of the everlasting love, which was presented to you and us. Peace is to you! peace is to you! Go - and establish God's peace everywhere. Ask the people to struggle for truth, and know that the Great Power has already done great things and will accomplish other great things.

"Members of the Leningrad Community"

Signed: "Fighters for peace and peoples freedom"

METHODIST LAYMEN IN THE SERVICE OF WORLD PEACE

he Hon. Ernest A. Gross, Chairman of the Department of International Affairs of the National Council of Churches; Honorary Chairman of the ew York Metropolitan Division of the American ssociation for the United Nations; formerly eputy Delegate of the USA to the United Nations; former member of the Department of State; member of Christ Methodist Church, New York, hose pastor, Dr. Ralph W. Sockman, is President of the Board of World Peace of The Methodst Church.

he Hon. George V. Allen, Assistant Secretary of tate for Middle Eastern and Near Eastern Affairs; formerly Ambassador at Belgrade, Yugolavia, and later New Delhi, India; from North arolina and member of same fraternity as that f Bishop Paul N. Garber.

The Hon. John J. Sparkman, United States Senator rom Alabama; member of Hamline Methodist Church, Washington, D. C., Rev. Jay A. Leatherman, pastor; recently visited Russia; in Moscow attended services in a Baptist Church, Roman Catholic Church, and Russian Orthodox Church; he reported attendance in the Baptist Church (where the Executive Secretary preached last summer) was so great that it was "bursting at the seams."

he Hon. George B. McKibbin, member of St. James ethodist Church, Chicago, Illinois; recently ecorated by the Liberian Government through its mbassador; in 1947-48 was Adviser to General ucius B. Clay; worker for international and interracial brotherhood; in Brussels, Belgium, in uly 1955 was Chairman of the Policy Committee f the World Brotherhood Conference; member of eneral Council on World Service and Finance of he Methodist Church.

WISCONSIN CONFERENCE

The World Peace Committee of the Wisconsin Conference, under the leadership of Mr. Lawrence Giese, has undertaken significant projects.

Special attention was directed to World Order Sunday, October 23, and World Peace Sunday, November 6. It was suggested that ministers preach on the United Nations on the former date and on "Atoms for Peace" on the latter date. Pastors were referred to resource materials that are available without charge or at low cost.

Special mailings from the Committee to Annual Conference members have included material dealing with universal military training; with an attack on clergymen by the leader of a veterans' organization; and copies of an address by U.S. Senator Alexander Wiley. On Sunday, October 23, district world peace workshops were held throughout the Conference, with groups discussing organization for peace, planning for peace 1955-56, and universal military training.

METHODISTS WILL ATTEND CHURCHMEN'S WASHINGTON SEMINAR, FEBRUARY 7-10

Some Methodists have registered and there are places for a limited number of others in the roster of the Annual Churchmen's Seminar at Washington. The Seminar is sponsored by the National Council of Churches. Here's an opportunity to hear and consult with Congressional and civilian leaders of government in Washington. Several Methodist Boards and the Woman's Division of Christian Service are cooperating in recruiting the 30 persons in our quota. The Board of World Peace trusts that a third of this number will be persons especially interested in international relations and peace. Those interested may write to the Board of World Peace, 740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Illinois. CDS

WORLD ORDER SUNDAY OBSERVANCE

On World Order Sunday, the World Peace Committee of the First Methodist Church of La Grange, Illinois, presented "The Church and the U.N.," a dramatized sermon. With the cooperation of two of the church choirs, an original dramatic script was presented at the morning worship service.

The small cost to the United States for the valuable contributions of the U.N. was emphasized. The interest and responsibility of the church in praying and working for peace was highlighted as the service was brought to a conclusion. The pastor of the church is Rev. Russell W. Lambert.

USA FLAGS IN POLAND

While in Warsaw in early August, I came in contact with the International Student Conference being held there. Many thousands of young people came from countries East and West, from Europe, the Americas, and Asian and African countries. Young people in trucks and cars flooded the streets of Warsaw. In connection with the festival, the city was highly decorated. Hundreds of groups of flags were placed in front of public buildings, hotels, public squares, and on street corners. These clusters always included the Polish, Soviet Union, and American flags, among others. So -- it was an interesting spectacle for an American to see literally many hundreds of American flags flying in Warsaw. CFB

U.N. HAILED IN FLORIDA

"I gave copies of A United Nations Birthday Party to members of our city-wide U.N. Day Committee. Our youth fellowship groups met together and used it for their Sunday evening service. It went over in a big way...

"I know you will be glad to know that we had the biggest and best city-wide U.N. Day observance in Jacksonville's history. I'll try to find time later to write you about it in detail."

W. C. White, Pastor
Fairfield Methodist Church
Jacksonville, Florida

NORTH ARKANSAS CONFERENCE

The North Arkansas Conference Peace Committee, under the leadership of Dr. Golder Lawrence, is carrying on an active program throughout the eight districts of the Conference.

At the Annual Conference in June, the program included an address by a representative from the general Board of World Peace, and two meetings of the Committee were held. Plans included special mailings through the year.

Five delegates were sent from the Conference to the South Central Jurisdictional U.N. Seminar. These delegates are available to speak at district conferences and in local churches.

The Conference Committee has purchased eight copies of the filmstrip, We Seek Peace, so that one may be circulated in each district through the cooperation of the district peace secretary and the district superintendent. In the Conference calendar, the period of November 11-26 has been designated for a special peace emphasis, and it has been suggested that sermons and programs deal with international relations and peace.

Plans are being developed for a world peace deputation team to be organized at Hendrix College. The team will be available for meetings of the MYF, Methodist Men, and WSCS, as well as for family nights and Sunday morning services.

A MESSAGE OF CONSOLATION TO METHODISTS IN YUGOSLAVIA

A letter from Bishop Ferdinand Sigg at. Zurich brought sad news when it conveyed the word that Rev. George Sebele of Novi Sad had passed away on November 5. Brother George Sebele was not only a pastor, but the District Superintendent of Methodist churches in Yugoslavia. Our churches lie just south of Hungary and west of Rumania. Others are in Macedonia, around Skoplje -- north of Greece and west of Bulgaria. Brother Sebele participated in our All-European Methodist World Peace Seminar at Frankfurt, Germany. It will be difficult to fill the place of George Sebele. Prayers and words of comfort were cabled to Mrs. Sebele and our Church in Yugoslavia.

ANNOUNCING SERMON COMPETITIONS ON "THE CHURCH, THE CHRISTIAN AND WAR"

There will be awards -- first prize of $250 in cash, second prize -- $50 worth of books and magazine subscriptions of the winner's choice, and third, similarly, $20 worth of books and magazine subscriptions. The competition is open to ministers and laymen and also to students in theological schools or seminaries in the United States or Canada. A distinguished group of judges has been selected. You may secure full information by writing to:

The Church Peace Mission
513 West 166th Street
New York 32, New York

OHIO AND N.E OHIO

Two young people in the Steubenville District of the North-East Ohio Conference have won all-expense tours to New York to visit the United Nations because of the excellence of their MYF programs interpreting the United Nations.

Philip Hennen of Drummond Methodist Church, Cadiz, Ohio, winner of first prize, wrote an original play portraying the accomplishments of the U.N. and using most of the members of his MYF. Sara Louise Stump of Centenary Methodist Church, East Palestine, Ohio, won second place with a program on "The United Nations -- Blueprint for Peace." The third and fourth place winners planned a progressive dinner concluding with a worship service, and wrote an original play, "Is Young America Interested?"

Mr. Hennen and Miss Stump will be members of the Ohio Area Methodist United Nations Seminar December 5-8. The Seminar at the U.N. will be directed by Dr. Charles F. Boss, Jr., Executive Secretary of the Board of World Peace.

NOTED HISTORIAN TOYNBEE SAYS RUSSIANS WANT PEACE

As reported by The New York World Telegram and Sun in October, Arnold J. Toynbee expressed his belief that Russia's actions since the Big Four Geneva Conference were genuine peace efforts. In stating so, he said: "The Russians are part of the human race and they have no more wish to annihilate it than we have."

It would be interesting to know now what Dr. Toynbee would say following the Foreign Ministers Conference in Geneva. However, being a long-range historian and thinker, he might conclude that the Russians, for purposes of their own, prefer to delay decisions and final action on issues which so recently have been discussed and on which no decisions have been reached.

APPLIED INSPIRATION

"Dear Dr. Boss:

"Want to tell you how very, very much I enjoyed the inspiration of our United Nations Seminar. I have been making about two addresses each week about the United Nations, and have a number of other speaking engagements."

Sincerely yours,
Robert E. Williams, Pastor
First Methodist Church
Eureka, Kansas

"Gentlemen:

"Please enroll me as a subscriber to the Courier. Congratulations on the fine job you are doing."

Cordially,
Roger Ragan, Pastor
Central Methodist Church
Glendale 4, California

(Thanks, Dr. Ragan. Many new subscriptions are coming in. EDITOR)